

# DREF operation final report



International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## Panama: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRPA006  
GLIDE n° FL-2010-000119-PAN  
23 February 2011

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

**Summary:** 38,171 Swiss francs were allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) on July 2010 to support the Red Cross Society of Panama (RCSP) in delivering immediate assistance to some 1,100 affected people (220 families).

During the months of June and July 2010, heavy rains caused floods, landslides and destroyed houses in Panama. The events affected vulnerable populations living in rural areas, and the DREF operation provided relief items to affected families to support them to re-establish their daily activities.

This operation concluded at the end of August 2010. The remaining balance of 6,468 Swiss francs was returned to the DREF.

The major donors to the DREF are the Irish, Italian, Netherlands and Norwegian governments and ECHO. Details of all donors can be found on: <http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/responding/drs/tools/dref/donors.asp>

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Rapid emergency needs assessments were carried out by the Red Cross Society of Panama. Source: RCSP.

## The situation

From mid June to early July, heavy rains affected Panama producing floods, water surges and landslides. Consequently, the National Civil Protection System (Sistema Nacional de Protección Civil - SINAPROC) declared a state of emergency in the Tarraré River basin, in the Barriada Altos Tarraré (Panamá province) and in the communities of El Cacao and El Balo (Los Santos province).

The official figures report 111 affected families in the province of Panamá and at least 150 in Los Santos province. While most of these families did not lose their houses, they experienced severe or total damage to all their furniture and possessions. The floods also caused severe damages on the livelihoods of farmers in the affected areas. Families required vast support in order to avoid harsher impacts by the disaster.

## Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Red Cross Society of Panama response operation involved approximately 100 RCSP volunteers, who rescued 34 people, provided emergency health services in coordination with the Ministry of Health, and conducted rapid damage and needs assessments. The RCSP also carried out trainings, promoting safe water handling and sanitation.

The operation was also supported by National Intervention Team (NIT) members. The interaction between volunteers and NIT members allowed volunteers to obtain experience while acquiring knowledge on emergency procedures and standards.

### Achievements against outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
<b>Outcome: Affected families have access to food and non-food items to support their efforts to resume essential household activities.</b>
<b>Output: (expected result): 220 affected families receive food and non-food items in the communities of Tataré, El Balo and El Cacao.</b>
<b>Activities planned:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments.</li> <li>• Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.</li> <li>• Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to the end user.</li> <li>• Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.</li> <li>• Provide 100 families with materials to reinforce their emergency shelters.</li> </ul>

**Impact:** The RCSP volunteers conducted household visits in the affected areas registering and identifying 1,100 affected people. This information was later shared with other humanitarian organizations and authorities.

The following criteria were used with community leaders to identify the most vulnerable families:

- Families living under the poverty line
- Families headed by single parents
- Families with children and senior citizens
- Families in isolated locations with little access to humanitarian assistance

Basic relief items were delivered to 1,110 people (220 families). This table shows the communities and number of people assisted by the RCSP:

Province	Area	Communities	Affected Families	Affected People
Panamá	Panamá Este	Tataré	120	600
	La Villa de Los Santos	El Balo	20	100
Los Santos	Pedasí	EL Cacao	80	400
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>220</b>	<b>1,100</b>

The government of Panama provided the families that were affected with furniture (stoves, refrigerators and mattresses) and assessed damages to repair houses. Thus, the assistance given by the RCSP complemented the actions carried out by the government by delivering food and other relief items. However, the Office of the First Lady also delivered food and non-food items in the community of Tataré (Panamá Este area); hence, the 120 food parcels and 120 baby kits originally intended for that area were stored for future emergencies.

The target families received 1 hygiene kit, 1 food parcel, 3 blankets, 3 mosquito nets, 2 jerrycans and 1 baby kit, as shown in the following table:

Community				
Items	Tatare	El Balo	El Cacao	Totals
Hygiene Kits	120	20	80	220
Food parcels	0	20	80	100
Blankets (3 per family)	360	60	240	660
Mosquito nets	360	60	240	660
Jerry cans	240	40	160	440
Baby Kits	0	20	80	100

The operation also distributed 200 tarpaulins (2 per family) in the communities of El Balo and El Cacao (Los Santos province). With these, the target families were able to reinforce their roofing and continue living in their own houses.

The main challenge faced by the operation was the distance to the communities, the travel time from the RCSP's warehouses to the communities ranged from three to seven hours.

### Emergency health, water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

**Outcome:** The risk of waterborne and water related diseases has been reduced through the provision of safe water, adequate sanitation as well as hygiene promotion to 100 families in the province of Los Santos and to 120 families in the province of Panama for three months.

**Output (expected result):** 220 affected families receive safe water and hygiene promotion in the communities of Tataré, El Balo and El Cacao.

**Activities planned:**

- Assess the existing coverage with a view of ensuring availability of an adequate water supply.
- Carry out a baseline study in order to carry out supplementary WASH community training.
- Provide safe water to 220 families as damaged systems are restored in cooperation with local authorities.
- Provide 100 families in the province of Los Santos with the means to purify water.
- Supply 220 families with mosquito nets.
- Provide basic information on water, sanitation and personal hygiene to members of the target communities.

**Impact:** To ensure a better quality of the water available and to reduce the incidence of vector diseases, the RCSP distributed 1,000 water purification tablets in El Cacao and El Balo (10 per family). The cost of the tablets was covered outside of this DREF allocation. In addition, 660 mosquito nets were distributed among the target population, as detailed in the Relief distribution outcome.

A week after the publication of the DREF bulletin, the RCSP and the communities identified priority areas for capacity building, such as first aid, disaster preparedness – including early warning – and sanitation training. The community members that helped to identify these areas and participated in the discussions were already volunteering for activities and are willing to become Red Cross members. This is an opportunity to expand the Red Cross response capacity at the local level.

In addition, this DREF operation covered costs related to the effectiveness of this operation. Funds were used for distribution and transport of items, volunteers' accommodation and incentives, maintenance and fuel for vehicles, and t-shirts, vests and flags for Red Cross Society of Panama visibility during the emergency response.

### How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

## Contact information

**For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:**

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**[<Final financial report below; click here to return to the title page>](#)**



## MDRPA006 - Panama - Floods

Appeal Launch Date: 02 jul 10

Appeal Timeframe: 02 jul 10 to 02 oct 10

Final Financial Report

Selected Parameters	
Reporting Timeframe	2010/7-2011/01
Budget Timeframe	2010/7-2010/10
Appeal	MDRPA006
Budget	APPEAL

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

**I. Consolidated Funding**

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
<b>A. Budget</b>	<b>38,171</b>					<b>38,171</b>
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	<b>0</b>					<b>0</b>
<b>Income</b>						
<b>Other Income</b>						
<i>Voluntary Income</i>	<i>31,703</i>					<i>31,703</i>
<b>C6. Other Income</b>	<b>31,703</b>					<b>31,703</b>
<b>C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C6)</b>	<b>31,703</b>					<b>31,703</b>
<b>D. Total Funding = B + C</b>	<b>31,703</b>					<b>31,703</b>
<b>Appeal Coverage</b>	<b>83%</b>					<b>83%</b>

**II. Movement of Funds**

	Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination	TOTAL
<b>B. Opening Balance</b>	<b>0</b>					<b>0</b>
<b>C. Income</b>	<b>31,703</b>					<b>31,703</b>
<b>E. Expenditure</b>	<b>-31,703</b>					<b>-31,703</b>
<b>F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)</b>	<b>0</b>					<b>0</b>

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### III. Consolidated Expenditure vs. Budget

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Disaster Management	Health and Social Services	National Society Development	Principles and Values	Coordination		
A		B					A - B	
<b>BUDGET (C)</b>		<b>38,171</b>					<b>38,171</b>	
<b>Supplies</b>								
Shelter - Relief	3,038	2,740				2,740	298	
Clothing & textiles	6,092	7,513				7,513	-1,421	
Food	3,798	3,693				3,693	105	
Utensils & Tools	1,910						1,910	
Other Supplies & Services	8,095	7,838				7,838	257	
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>22,932</b>	<b>21,784</b>				<b>21,784</b>	<b>1,148</b>	
<b>Transport &amp; Storage</b>								
Distribution & Monitoring		900				900	-900	
Transport & Vehicle Costs	3,476	413				413	3,063	
<b>Total Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>3,476</b>	<b>1,313</b>				<b>1,313</b>	<b>2,163</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>								
National Society Staff	2,170	3,081				3,081	-911	
Consultants	325	529				529	-204	
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>2,495</b>	<b>3,610</b>				<b>3,610</b>	<b>-1,115</b>	
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>								
Workshops & Training	2,169						2,169	
<b>Total Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>2,169</b>						<b>2,169</b>	
<b>General Expenditure</b>								
Information & Public Relation	1,118	1,509				1,509	-391	
Office Costs	542	492				492	50	
Communications	109	280				280	-171	
Financial Charges	1,000	-288				-288	1,288	
<b>Total General Expenditure</b>	<b>2,769</b>	<b>1,993</b>				<b>1,993</b>	<b>776</b>	
<b>Programme &amp; Service Support</b>								
Programme & Service Support	2,330	1,935				1,935	395	
<b>Total Programme &amp; Service Support</b>	<b>2,330</b>	<b>1,935</b>				<b>1,935</b>	<b>395</b>	
<b>Services</b>								
Services & Recoveries	2,000	1,049				1,049	951	
Shared Services		19				19	-19	
<b>Total Services</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>1,068</b>				<b>1,068</b>	<b>932</b>	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)</b>	<b>38,171</b>	<b>31,703</b>				<b>31,703</b>	<b>6,468</b>	
<b>VARIANCE (C - D)</b>		<b>6,468</b>				<b>6,468</b>		